

The Quincy Union.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

—BY—
W. V. KELLOGG.

Terms of Subscription:
For One Year, (Invariably in advance) \$5.00
For Six Months, " 3.00

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Quincy Union.

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VOL. 4. QUINCY, PLUMAS CO., CAL., SATURDAY, DEC. 2, 1865. NO. 5.

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J. J. KNOWLTON & CO., L. P. FISHER, THOS. BYRON and W. H. LACE are the only authorized agents for the Union in San Francisco.

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E. K. PHIPPS is our only authorized agent at Sacramento.

QUINCY, PLUMAS CO., CAL.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2, 1865.

COME OVER TO THE COPPERHEADS.—The more honest and the shrewd ones among the Republicans, says the Mountain Democrat, are abandoning the extreme black schemes, and joining the President's party. Weed, Raymond and Forney, the leaders of the conservative wing of the Republican party, are not disposed to follow the Radicals in their treacherous and satanic course against the South. They know that the masses will not sustain the Radicals. They see both the setting of the current and the course which patriotism and common sense point out as the right one. The well-informed Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger reports the progress in this direction. He writes:

"Included among the cordial endorsers of the President's policy are a majority of the best Republicans in the land. The truth is, the more honorable and truth-loving among the Republicans are completely disgusted with this eternal agitating and opposition to wise measures of restoration, and it has been the very thing that has driven them from farther associations with the extremists. Rest assured the President is all right. He has declared that the South can be trusted, and first as a rock will stand in his position. To the appeal or suggestion from his opponents that the Government had better be thinking of organizing instead of disbanding, the President has said, as I am told, reply by ordering the War Department to reduce the army immediately to a peace footing, which means, I presume, an army similar in number to the one prior to the war. This is the most important conclusion, and will naturally barb anew, with hate and bitterness, the arrows of the opposition."

We think we shall not be far out of our calculation if we attribute to partisan rancor a major portion of the troubles which are accumulating around us. It is of course, that such a sentiment of almost irreconcilable antagonism should be created; that brother should fight against brother, and the hand of the son be lifted against the father, the father's against the son; but should there not, somewhere, at some time, be an end of the fraternal strife? We speak not of traitors—those who, by bringing their hands in the blood of their kin, have placed themselves beyond the pale of civilized recognition, but of the grand aggregate of our fellow-citizens who having no disagreement in regard to the cardinal points of our national creed, persist in prolonging the differences of party, and in upholding distinctions which cannot, themselves, explain, and which, after all, are of no account when weighed in the balance with the public good.—See Bee.

WATCH OUT, MR. BEE!—such sentiments as the above are not in keeping with the ideas of such sheets as the Appeal Flag & Co. You are getting too conservative, and if you are not very careful you will be charged with the crime of "going over to the Copperheads." Watch out.

GONE OVER TO THE COPPERHEADS.—The following choice piece of "negro equality" slang, we find in the Marysville Appeal:

If Mr. Seward is a "Constitutional" Union man in a political sense, he has been in the wrong party for four years, and his position seems to warrant the suspicion that age or the knife of the assassin Payne has impaired his statesman.

Of course, Secretary Seward, President Johnson, and all others who differ with the astute editor of the Appeal on the subject of universal suffrage, reconstruction, &c. are either fools or traitors. Git!

A CELEBRATED INSTITUTION.—One of the permanent institutions of San Francisco is the Water Cure Establishment of Dr. Bourne, in the Masonic Temple, Post street. Dr. Bourne's Baths have become so widely known that a stranger visiting the Bay City has not seen all the celebrities until he has visited "Dr. Bourne's Baths" and had a look at the Doctor. Dr. Bourne is very unpopular with physicians who deal in mineral poisons, but his popularity among the people (thousands of whom he has cured of diseases that baffled the skill of the medicine men) more than compensates him for the enmity of those who despise him simply for the reason that he destroys their business, by curing people without the use of any medicine whatever.

It is an indisputable fact that more disease and suffering is entailed upon children by impure blood in parents than from any other cause. Heads of families owe it to their posterity to see to it that their blood is kept free from all poisonous matter that would have tendency to produce disease, suffering and perhaps death to their offspring. Adam's Blood Purifier, prepared by Samuel Adams, San Francisco, is a strictly vegetable preparation, and is scientifically prepared from the choicer and most efficacious blood-purifying remedies known to the vegetable world, and if used according to directions will restore the blood to its proper condition in a very short time.

NAMES.—The New York Herald calls Sumner, Wendell Phillips, Thaddeus Stevens, Butler, Chase and that school of politicians to which the radicals of this State belong, "Nigger Heads."

For purifying the blood use Adams' Blood Purifier. It contains no mercury or mineral poisons, and is the best blood purifying medicine ever offered to the people of this coast.

W. J. BEERS takes the place of Selkirk on the Stars and Stripes, published at Auburn, Placer county.

FEES IN OFFICE.

The Legislature of 1863-4 passed an act to provide for ascertaining the amount of fees paid to the several officers or counties in this State. From the contemporaneous debates, the object of that law was undoubtedly to find out the amount paid to each officer and received by him, as fees, so that the Legislature of 1865-6 could apply the pruning hook and reduce the fees of those officers who are in the receipt of exorbitant fees.

The incoming Legislature will undoubtedly attempt to renovate and correct the whole system of fees in office, and we hail it as a move in the right direction. Our present system is onerous and oppressive; as it is at present it is too great a tax on the people, and if it can be done, we hope it will be fixed as to reduce the fees to a living rate and remove the evil.

In this county the evil is as hard to be borne as it is in those counties whose officers receive thousands upon thousands of dollars in the shape of fees, and the time is not far distant, when, under the present system, the receipts of several offices in this county would compare very favorably with the amounts received in older and richer counties, where one term is ample to make its innumerable rich. An officer should receive a liberal salary, for it requires a capacity to fill those offices creditably, and a good salary must be given to secure competent officers; but to make an office the foundation of a fortune, is unjust to the people who must foot the bills. A good salary, such as a first-class merchant gives to a first-class clerk, is sufficient; no officer ought to expect more, and no county ought to offer less to its officers.

If officers receive fees, they ought not to put them in their pockets if they are provided with salaries; and if they are only paid by fees, there should be a limit in the form of a salary, beyond which, if they receive, it should go into the General Fund; for as long as a person is entitled to as much as he can get, the temptation is very strong to get as much as he can; as it is now, no person can blame an officer, for it is lawful; but the principle is wrong, and proper checks ought to be established, so that an officer may not get rich in one term. Nor yet is it right to establish too low a value for the service of an officer, for fear good men cannot be procured to perform the public duties.

We favor a change from fees, to salaries; let each officer collect a reasonable fee for each duty required, and be required to keep an account thereof, and account thereto at the close of each month or quarter; if he has not received, in fees, enough to pay his salary, let the county pay him, and if he has received more than his salary would amount to, for the time, let him pay over the difference to the county Treasurer and have such overplus go into a Salary Fund, or into the General Fund as the case may be.

This system, if properly carried out, would beget a cash manner of doing business, which would, we think, prove beneficial all round; for it would charge the officer the fee for doing certain duties, and he would be obliged to collect his fee or lose it.

From the returns of the several officers made in this county under the law of 1863-4, we don't think any of our officers have grown rich, but leaving the right to collect in the manner as now provided by law, it leaves the people too much in the power of an officer. We therefore say that, it is the duty of the Legislature to reduce the fees of the several officers, and affix reasonable salaries thereto; make the several officers collect the fees and pay over into a Salary Fund, or allow them to reserve as much as their salary would amount to, and pay over the difference, if there be more collected; then the temptation to extort would be removed, and no officer would get more than his services were worth; nor would he receive less, if his salary were sufficient.

This system could be adopted in this county without injury to any one, for we are so nearly out of debt, that a warrant on the General Fund is worth 25 cts. on the dollar; but, if it be adopted, it would perhaps be better to create a Salary Fund, which would be the same cash to the officers.

FOR THE QUINCY UNION.

SKETCHES—NO. 1

BY G. S. B.

Sawpit Gravel Ridge.

Sir Isaac Newton, concealed to have been the greatest philosopher that ever lived, when about to die, compared his life to a little boy on the seashore picking up pebbles, while the whole ocean, full of wonders lay before him. The miners of Washington township fifteen years ago, commenced their labors. Yes, fifteen years have rolled by, and it now becomes our business to ascertain and consider what we have done to develop the great ocean of hidden wealth that lies scattered before us. It is really astonishing to see how little has been done.

We have dug a few holes into Sawpit Gravel Ridge, while many other ridges equally inviting lie in close proximity unnoticed, undisturbed. We have built five puny little towns and two of the number have declined. All we have done, when we look back over it, seems to sink into utter insignificance.

I might as well, perhaps, first give a brief general description of the theater of our labors. Permit me to say, then, Sawpit Ridge leaves the north side of Pilot's Peak and sweeps gracefully round to the west, and is generally conceded to be a part and parcel of the famous "Blue Lead."

Onion Valley Creek, rising close under this Peak, forms a sag or valley for about half a mile, and then drops off and forms a rocky canon. This creek, with its many little tributaries, presents a crooked, zigzag line along the west side of the ridge, leaving

an excellent chance for tunnelling the ridge. Onion Valley Creek also furnishes Sawpit miners with an excellent supply of water for about three months in the year. Its rocky bed, I cannot speak very kindly of, for it certainly never befriended the "poor miner." The head of Poorman's Creek, once a rich stream, and of Hopkin's also once remunerative, have carved out their rocky beds by the east side of Sawpit Ridge, leaving a series of high bluff points, at once charmingly wild and grand in appearance.

The middle fork of Feather river skirts along at the foot of its north bank, giving it a beautiful finish for miles. Some people suppose the "Blue Lead" leaves the ridge and crosses the middle fork of Feather river near Rich Bar; but there seems to be little or no proof to sustain the opinion. Close under Pilot's Peak the ridge is well timbered with fir, spruce and an occasional pitch pine, while in short distance away from this shelter the fierce onsets of Winter's gale have swept the ridge bare, except here and there a stunted, frightened scrub. However, about a mile from the Peak the ridge goes lower, and again gets to be moderately well timbered; but the day is not far distant when the Sawpit miners will bitterly regret having wasted thousands of cords of valuable wood. Hornbeam composes the rim rock on the northern and eastern sides, while on the west flint, granite, quartz and slate prevail. On the eastern side the rim is hard, but good rock for blasting; on the north pretty generally soft; on the west however it is soft rock are frequent. The ridge gives employment perhaps to two hundred men; only a small part however has yet engaged the attention of the miner, while several miles of the ridge lies unclaimed and unprospected. So much for the ridge generally.

A TOWN WE BUILT.

Onion Valley, the town or mining camp, stands at the lower end of a sag or valley of a similar name. This town tumbled into its chrysalis or drilling existence in the Spring of 1850, and changed to wool in the Autumn of the same year. At the time the town was established, many believed it destined soon to become the great emporium of the country around it,—in short, a kind of Marysville of the mountains. In 1851, a brick-making establishment was started close by the town for the purpose of supplying the materials for fireplaces; but the demand for that commodity being slightly dull, the establishment closed for a time, the proprietor left and has not again returned to resume active operations. I am told the last of the bricks were taken to Nelson Point in 1853. Onion Valley was at the height of its glory in 1851. It then boasted several stores, hotels, boarding-houses and residences, and it is said, including the tents of the miners, sheltered at least four hundred persons. In early days, Onion Valley was a commercial town, (in a mountain sense,) and enjoyed a thriving trade. The miners from the middle fork of Feather river,—from Nelson, Hopkins, Poorman's, Winter's, Washington creeks came here with pockets full of money to buy cheap goods. Sundays, the town was thronged from morning till night; dog fights, so common in the streets of all little mining towns in those days were almost as frequent, and created almost as great a rush and excitement as in Downieville itself; long-bearded "sovereigns," in fancy red-top boots and gray shirts were continually pouring into the town from all sides, and continually wending their way toward homes over the mountains. But those good old times have gone. The town has sadly declined, and today we can only count one hotel, one steam saw mill, one butcher shop, a store standing tempestuously, and two or three little residences. In fact, one building after another has been crushed down by the snow and faded away, until Onion Valley has been almost annihilated. *Sic transit gloria mundi.* Yes, indeed, thus passes away the glory of the earth.

There are other advantages to be derived from the building of this road, which we may call public attention to, hereafter. For the present, *v. lata, vatis, aletti.*

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NEWSPAPERS.—A. W. Bishop, Esq., formerly of the Red Bluff Independent, has established a paper at Chico, Butte county, called "The Chico Weekly Courier." The Courier presents a neat typographical appearance, is ably edited, and from the large list of advertisers in its columns, should judge that the business men of Chico intend to give it a liberal support. Success attend the Courier.

The Monitor newspaper has been sold to Dennis Lyons, for \$2,600. D. E. McCarthy, formerly of the Territorial Enterprise, has purchased an interest in Felix O'Byrne's paper, The Irish People.

SUSPENDED.—The Virginia Enterprise learns that the Washoe Times, published at Washoe City, (Nev.), has suspended publication. The paper has sadly declined, and today we can only count one hotel, one steam saw mill, one butcher shop, a store standing tempestuously, and two or three little residences. In fact, one building after another has been crushed down by the snow and faded away, until Onion Valley has been almost annihilated. *Sic transit gloria mundi.* Yes, indeed, thus passes away the glory of the earth.

R. F. GREENLY has taken the editorial chair of the Sacramento Daily Bee.

The California Police Gazette is seldom received at this office. What's the reason?

The Golden Era is a good paper to subscribe for, and very handy to have in the house during the Winter evenings.

THE RESULT.—At a very little expense, we have been able to procure a couple of men, or cutters or facsimiles, if any should exist, but will be devoted to the building up, promoting and advancing, to the extent of our humble abilities, of the great National Democratic party, giving a cordial support to the Administration of President Johnson, in his constitutional and legal efforts to reconstruct the Government, reserving to ourselves the right to criticize or censure any and all acts of the President or any other public officer, not warranted by the Constitution or the laws made thereunder.

This paper, while under our editorial management and control, will be an independent Democratic journal, and will not be the organ of any particular man, set of men, or cutters or facsimiles, if any should exist, but will be devoted to the building up, promoting and advancing, to the extent of our humble abilities, of the great National Democratic party, giving a cordial support to the Administration of President Johnson, in his constitutional and legal efforts to reconstruct the Government, reserving to ourselves the right to criticize or censure any and all acts of the President or any other public officer, not warranted by the Constitution or the laws made thereunder.

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